

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Department of Natural Resources

Room 3710

February 14, 2005

Minutes

Member Present:

HARTY, Kimm – Utah Geological Survey
ZAREKARIZI, Susan – State Parks and Recreation
SULLIVAN, Lenora – Division of Wildlife Resources
MILLIS, Eric – Division of Water Resources
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill – Division of Water Rights
COTTAM, Brian – GOPB
WATANABE, Judy – Emergency Services
GRIERSON, Dave – Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
GRUBAUGH-LITTIG, Pamela – DOGM
CLARK, Robert – DEQ, Division of Air Quality

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn – Public Lands Section
LANDURETH, Brenda – Department of Natural Resources
HIGDON, Matthew – Bureau of Land Management
BOHN, Laura – GOPB
GARCIA, Tim – U.S. Forest Service
JEMMING, Jonathan – Public Lands Section

Kimm Harty, Utah Geological Survey, chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

I. Approval of Minutes/Announcements

Bill Schlotthauer moved to approve the December minutes as amended. Robert Clark seconded the motion. The committee unanimously approved the minutes. Pam Grubaugh-Littig moved to approve the January minutes and Susan Zarekarizi seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Special Discussions/Presentations

Laura Bohn, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, Outdoor Recreation Economic Ecosystem Taskforce

Utah has spectacular natural, recreation, cultural and heritage resources. In recognition of these world-class amenities and their importance to the economies and lifestyles of communities across the state, Governor Jon Huntsman Jr. has asked the Outdoor Recreation Task Force, to work with and include public input, to identify Utah's premier outdoor recreation destinations and natural assets to protect and enhance these resources. This group will identify specific geographic destinations throughout Utah that are either experiencing problems or are struggling with conflicts. Identification of specific sites, valuable areas and assets will allow the Task Force to better assess needs, issues or conflicts and to formulate recommendations to address funding issues, enhance resource protection and to develop management strategies in a timely manner. The Task Force will address county, state, legal and legislative issues. Collaboration with local communities, the state, and resource management agencies, the Task Force will address "global concerns" related to promoting recreation and individual sites, recognizing and maximizing the economic benefits from Utah's recreation and natural assets and mitigating recreation and tourism impacts.

Issues include medical injury claims, funding and reimbursement for search and rescue operations, patrol and other impacts related to increasing recreation and tourism. Costs are increasing for counties to provide services, resource protection and to address other related issues. Counties are interested in reducing recreation and tourism impacts and costs. Insurance options such as a recreation user insurance card, volunteer funds, training and equipment funding are some items under discussion and further consideration. Two handouts were provided to the council (Executive Order: Creating the Outdoor Recreation Economic Ecosystem Task Forces and the Outdoor Recreation Economic Ecosystem Task Force RDCC Update which provides an overview of specific issues in various Utah counties.) See www.outdoortaskforce.utah.gov for more information.

The council recommended coordinating with Cordell Roy, National Park Service, regarding recreation studies along the Colorado River.

III. Reports from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects

Brenda Landureth, Department of Natural Resources, reported that the Recovery Programs Offices has released a new Endangered Species Mitigation Fund brochure. Proposals for funding will be received in March.

Brian Cottam, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB), suggested that John Bennett contact Reed Harris about this fund. The LeRay McAllister Fund accepts applications for consideration in May/June timeframe and announced funding in September.

Matthew Higdon, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), reported that the Price Resource Management Plan will be completed this fall. The Vernal RMP should be completed this summer. The Kanab RMP is moving forward. Richfield has postponed their draft RMP until the end of 2006. BLM has re-established several websites to view reports and to submit comments on these documents. See www.blm.gov/rmp/ut/ and then add the area of interest Moab, Richfield, Monticello and Kanab. Two other websites will be available soon.

March 10, 2006, is the deadline to submit comments regarding the GasCo West Tavaputs Production project adjacent to the Bill Barrett Corp project.

The final Utah oil and gas sale list will be available on March 16, 2006. See the following website for more information www.ut.blm.gov/fluidminerals/salenotices.html or contact Lauren Mermejo at 538-4066 or Connie Seare at 539-4111.

Dave Grierson, Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (DFFSL), reported that the division is close to completing a stipulation agreement regarding the Great Salt Lake Oil and Gas Leasing issue. Some 50 leases will be held in abeyance for 2-4 years until the Mineral Leasing Plan is revised with additional public input. DFFSL has agreed to provide a 15-day notice to interested parties prior to the RDCC announcement on the Project Management Library (PML). The DFFSL is also working with GOPB to get information

on their website. Utah State Code and the Public Trust Doctrine requires the DFFSL to balance all resources and multiple-use on sovereign lands held in the public trust. RDCC PML is used as a public notice tool and will be used for any projects proposed by federal, state and local government. This noticing tool will help inform the public and help to protect agencies.

Nominations for leasing on Green River will appear on the PML. DFFSL has acquired property near the Galena Project adjacent the Jordan River. A geothermal well has had some sovereign land trespass issues.

Judy Watanabe, Emergency Services, announced that a new floodplain mapping project will update the state Federal Emergency Management Administration floodplain maps. This information will be available on the AGRC website. Previous maps were completed in the 1980s.

Brian Cottam, GOPB, provided the State and Local Planning Section, Winter 2006 Update to the council.

The socio-economic information in federal and state planning is often incomplete. A draft scope of work is being developed by Utah State University, BLM and the Association of Governments to better address local community perspective, custom and culture to enable better socio-economic analysis for decision-making based on impacts and social values of communities.

Susan Zarekarizi, State Parks and Recreation (SPR), announced a land sale along the Jordan River that will eliminate a landlocked situation, which is the result of a private dike to control flooding. Two additional parcels for property acquisition for the Desert Tortoise are in the federal aid, which is working on a match.

Tim Garcia, U.S. Forest Service, reported that the 2007 administration budget was sent to Congress last Monday. In order to secure funding for rural schools, timber receipts on national forest lands have been conveyed to states to provide funding for five years. Many acres are currently available for conveyance and will be identified in the Federal Register. John Harja has a list of parcels. This effort will eliminate isolated tracts of land with no access.

Please submit coordinated email comments to John Harja or Lynn Stevens regarding the role of RDCC and how to integrate and coordinate notification. The Memorandum of Understanding will require updating. State agencies use RDCC to notice projects. We need to determine how to coordinate and create consistency between the governor's office and state government.

IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library

A handout of the current status of the RDCC Project Management System was provided to the committee. No items were discussed.

V. Adjournment

Dave Grierson moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m. Pam Grubaugh-Littig and then seconded the motion. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in room 3710.